The Prince of Orange
HIS
SPEECH,
In Defence of the
Proteſtant Religion.

Gentlemen, and Fellow Soldiers,

IT is not a little ſatisfaction to me, That having an Army compos'd of ſo many different Nations; I do notwithſtanding find them unanimouſly bent to maintain and proſecute, to the utmoſt, the Cauſe I have now undertaken. And though by ſeveral Declarations, I have (as I believe) ſufficiently ſatisfied both you, and all *England*, of the Sincerity, as well as the neceſſity of theſe my Actions and Deſigns, I ſhall not, however, think it unneceſſary, or ſuperfluous, briefly to repeat and Sumn up ſome things which may ſerve yo: for ſatisfaction, as to matters paſt, as well as Encouragement for the Future.

That *England*, and the *United Provinces*, are the Two main Pillars, whereon all the Reformed Churches of *Europe* ſeem to depend, is to us rather the Envy than the Doubt of our Adverſaries now at the Court of *Rome*, and lately of *England*, not only to weaken, but wholly to root out even the Name of *Proteſtant*, each Man's private Diurnal, as well as our publick Annals, do ſufficiently Teſtifie; nor is that Breach made by the reſtleſs Malice of our Enemies (urg'd by a late Opportunity) in the Laws and Liberties of theſe Kingdoms, ſo effectually made up as to free us from the Suſpicion and Fear of a more dangerous Relapſe. What therefore remains, but that we apply ſuch Remedies, as ſhall not only for the preſent Eaſe us, but for the future Secure us. Lenitives have, to our coſt, been too long thrown away on the Canker'd Hearts of our Irreconcilable Enemies. God's Providence, not our Swords, proving the only Antidote againſt their Poyſon. The preſent Perſecution of the poor *Proteſtants* in *Ireland*, is but as a Prologue to their intended Miſeries, had it not by Providence been timely prevented: nor did the Laws and Liberties of the People of *England*, ſeem a ſufficient Sacrifice to their Hungery Zeal for the preſent, unleſs by Methods as Sophiſtical as their Doctrine, they might bind and ſecure them to Poſterity. We have ſeen the Corruption of Judges (thoſe betrayers of their Country,) the Oppreſſion of the Biſhops (thoſe Pillars of the Church,) the Abuſes of moſt of the great Offices (Civil and Military,) private Cabals, and publick Grievances; and all to promote a Faction as uneaſie, as contrary to all Moral Converſation. Let us therefore, **Gentlemen and Fellow Soldiers**, with Courage and Conſtancy, Oppoſe and Diſarm theſe common Diſturbers of the Peace of Chriſtendome. If our Adverſaries boaſt of *French* Supplies, and *Iriſh* Succours (while you are reſolv'd and united in your Hearts;) I value them not; I fear not the Strength of the *One*; and, I thank God, can Laugh at the Malice of the *Other*. Let us vigorouſly Tread that Path, which *God* Almighty ſeems to have peculiarly mark'd out for us. If there be any of you that either diſtruſt your own Courages, or are diſſatisfied with the Cauſe you have undertaken, I freely give you Liberty and ſafe Conduct to your ſeveral Abodes. I will *My Self*, be both the Spectator and Rewarder of all your Actions; reſolving to be the Perſonal Example of your Courage and Reſolution. I Exhort and Command you to be Duriful and Obedient to your ſeveral reſpective Commanders. To forbear, on pain of Death, all Fraud or Pillages on the Citizens; and to be careful and vigilant in your reſpective Poſts; and, as I believe, you are ſufficiently ſatisfied with the *Juſtice* of our *Cauſe*; ſo, by the help of *God*, (which I chiefly Exhort you conſtantly to Pray for) I doubt not of a happy and ſpeedy Succeſs, as in other places, ſo in *London*.

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